

Date: April 6, 2004

RE: RM-10869

To whom it may concern:

As stated in my comment on RM-10867 & RM-10868, I believe that by arbitrarily granting people privileges they have not earned, and have not proven they understand, the FCC would be aiding in the erosion of amateur radio as we know it today. The idea that making entrance into any field of study easier simply to get more involvement in that field is absurd. I believe that privileges in amateur radio, as in any walk of life, should be earned by proving that a candidate knows the material. I say this because what the FCC allows me to do with my license is just that, a privilege, not a right as some would have you believe.

The rules and requirements for obtaining an amateur radio license need made more stringent, not less. People should earn their privileges not have them given to them arbitrarily. Morse code is one of the most reliable forms of communication. Given what amateur radio stands for, and its history, it would be wrong to not keep or even enhance, that art and skill level of those in the hobby by increasing the Morse code requirements.

Thank You,
Glen A. Powell